



Interpretive Plan

**Battle for the Bridge Historic Preserve
Woodsonville/Munfordville, Kentucky**

Developed for the

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“... we could look into the muzzles of the frowning guns and see the glistening bayonets of the infantry in the ditches, expecting every moment for the order to charge. We knew it would be a bloody affair if we had to take the fort by assault... but the afternoon passed without orders, and we slept on our arms, dreading the light of day.”

– J. Pugh Cannon
27th Alabama Infantry, C.S.A.

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Introduction

This interpretive plan has been prepared to establish an interpretive vision for the Battle for the Bridge Battlefield Preserve in Woodsonville/Munfordville, Kentucky, as a necessary stepping stone to appropriate development on the site. It is intended as a companion document to the Preservation Plan and the General Management Plan. It is to be augmented by the Wayside Exhibit Plan and the Museum Exhibit Plan.

The battlefield and associated sites in Woodsonville and Munfordville represent an enormous opportunity for preservation, education, and community enrichment, but only if appropriately developed. The holistic planning process for this site, a process of which this document is a part, aims to ensure the considered, careful transition of this nationally significant private property to one that annually hosts and educates thousands of visitors from across the nation.

As with any effort to establish a park from such a relatively undisturbed historic area, formidable challenges accompany the process. This interpretive plan seeks to assess and address these challenges in such a way as to guide site developers to a solution that achieves the purposes for which the park was conceived. To this end, the plan will systematically address a range of issues:

Section (1) will treat broader planning considerations that inform specific interpretive planning, such as park purpose, function, and significance; the type and number of visitors expected; and other related conditions and problems on the ground.

Section (2) presents the site-specific interpretive themes and objectives and those management objectives that inform, or are informed by, interpretive planning within the context of overall site planning.

Section (3) addresses the details of site interpretation, including the overall interpretive vision for the site, drawn from the site's themes and objectives, and the means to implement that vision in multiple phases. The specifics of implementation will include considerations of visitor center operations; personal and non-personal services on the greater battlefield; personal and non-personal services in historic Munfordville; special event planning; and staffing.

Section (4) expands the conceptual framework of Section 3 by identifying those additional plans either completed or in progress that are needed for complete site implementation, and addresses the status of each.

Section (5) presents a rough estimate of the gross costs for plan implementation.

Section (6) comprises five appendices that address accessibility, wayside exhibits, tour logistics, print publications, and architectural analyses in depth.

Taken as a whole, the document will provide a directed path that places rich interpretation as a guiding principle in all aspects of site development, whether or not directly affected by interpretive operations.

Section 1

Planning Considerations

A clear understanding of park purpose and significance provides the basis for subsequent park and interpretive management actions. The following statements reflect the considered intent of the Project's founders in consultation with the landowners, and reflect an analysis of resource values.

1.1 Park Purpose and Function

The Battle for the Bridge Historic Preserve is committed to the preservation of the rich historical resources associated with the Civil War in Hart County, and to providing for the public enjoyment of these resources in such a way as to leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations; and to the spread of knowledge and understanding of these events and their role in shaping the history of the community, state, and nation; and to providing these services in such a way as to sustain and improve the quality of life for the citizens of Hart County, who derive from these sites a significant part of, and pride in, their heritage.

The Battle for the Bridge Historic Preserve will operate under the auspices of the Hart County Historical Society. A Director will be in charge, employed by the Society. The Director will answer to an oversight committee of the Hart County Historical Society Board of Directors. Staff will also be employed by the Society, and the Society is expected to assist site operations through the work of its substantial volunteer base.

1.2 Park Significance

The national significance of the events at Woodsonville/Munfordville was recognized in 1993 by the congressional Civil War Sites Advisory Commission when it classified the battlefield as a class "B"—a principal strategic operation of the war, having "strategic character and national significance" and "having a direct influence on [its] campaign."

The campaign in question was one of a broad-sweeping set of Confederate campaigns mounted in the fall of 1862 with the aim of securing the border states and the Mississippi river. This sweep, targeted at Maryland, Kentucky, and Mississippi, culminated in the Confederate defeats at Antietam in the east, at Perryville in the west, and at Corinth, Mississippi, dashing all Confederate hopes for those lands. Kentucky was a particularly coveted prize, for holding Kentucky would give the Confederacy a strong front protected by the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, and, as it was hoped, a great increase in manpower, supplies, and industrial capacity. Indeed, Abraham Lincoln is often quoted as having said "To lose Kentucky is to lose the whole game."

Confederate General Braxton Bragg had sidestepped Union General Don Carlos Buell and surged into Kentucky via Glasgow, with loose plans to join forces with Kirby Smith, who had already opened the Bluegrass to the Confederates with his victory at Richmond, KY. Although Munfordville, like Richmond, was a small conflict in Civil War terms, the Battle of Munfordville has significance in that it raised Confederate expectations that the Kentucky campaign would result in the defeat of Buell's army, invasion of Indiana and Illinois, and the recovery of Confederate power in the central and eastern portions of Kentucky and Tennessee.

General Braxton Bragg's invasion of Kentucky was like a great wave that surged, built to a dramatic crest, and then, having reached this high water mark, broke and receded. The Battle of Perryville was the breaking of that wave. But the crest of that wave, the moment of the Confederacy's greatest potential in the west, was Munfordville. Major Paul F. Hammond reflects upon this potential, writing that "[The successes at Munfordville] were the first brilliant and auspicious fruits of General Bragg's rapid march from Chattanooga. The hopes of the army, and all the friends of the Southern cause, were raised to the highest pitch. The strategy of the campaign was, up to this point, completely successful in all quarters. Buell, hemmed in at Bowling Green, would, it was firmly believed, be compelled to give battle on such advantageous terms that nothing but defeat and destruction awaited him."

Benjamin Franklin Cooling concurs: "Bragg stood in a good position to offer Buell a decisive battle for Kentucky. Whether or not it could have occurred at this point remains moot. Adam Rankin Johnson declared later that here was Bragg's fatal mistake, for he felt confident that if the two armies had met at the Green River, as Bragg intended ('or

as he declared he intended'), the Confederates could have crushed the Federal army, and with the aid 'of many thousand assured recruits it could have held the state.'"

James Lee McDonough, espousing Stanley Horn's argument, notes that "[Bragg's] soldiers were inspired by the capture of Wilder's [Munfordville] garrison and might well expect to find Buell's men correspondingly depressed.' Horn then contends, 'There was every sound reason why Bragg should fight Buell at once, and there is some evidence that he thought of it. But he did not fight. ... In a negative way, General Bragg's failure to fight at Munfordville was one of the great crises of the war – perhaps its greatest moral crisis.' One would not overstate Bragg's failure here, says Horn, "by calling it a major disaster of the conflict.' Essentially Horn is following the arguments of Joseph Wheeler, then a colonel commanding Hardee's cavalry brigade, and of Basil Duke, who rode with the famous Rebel raider John Hunt Morgan. Robert S. Henry, a southern historian whose work preceded Horn's by a decade, took a similar view."

The Battle of South Mountain, MD, and the Battle of Iuka, MS, led inexorably to the Confederate defeats at Antietam and Corinth (respectively) in much the same way that Munfordville led inexorably to Perryville. But *unlike* those battles, in which the Confederacy ended in a *weakened* position, the Confederate success at Munfordville, as noted above, placed Bragg's army in the strongest position it would occupy for the entire campaign, and fueled hopes that influenced future Confederate military strategy. But it was an historic opportunity bafflingly squandered. Indeed, Hammond remarks on Bragg's "incomprehensible failure to attack" and construes that "perhaps the most lamentable consequence of this failure was that it shook, if it did not destroy, the confidence of the army in General Bragg. Confidence which, up to this time, he possessed completely." McDonough agrees, writing that, "Ominously for the future, Bragg came away from Kentucky having lost the confidence of many men and officers, whether deservedly or not." That confidence, thus lost, led to the loss of Kentucky at Perryville, and the fulfillment, for the Confederacy, of Lincoln's prophecy.

Munfordville is, then, a unique snapshot of the Confederacy at its greatest potential in the West, and the site of events and decisions that would shape the course of the entire conflict to follow.

1.3 Visitors and Visitation

While visitors to Battle for the Bridge will consist of a fair number of local families and school groups interested in local heritage, a significantly larger portion will be travelers who find the site while on Interstate 65 or Highway 31W. They will represent both the traveler *en route* to somewhere else who "discovers" the site, and the Civil War enthusiast who has sought out the site as a source of specific interest.

Comparison was made between similar sites within a 100-mile radius of Munfordville. These sites included Abraham Lincoln Birthplace NHS, Stones River NB, Fort Donelson NB, and Perryville Battlefield State Park. These four sites share four basic things in common: (1) they are all Civil War related; (2) they all are part of an established national or state park system; (3) they all require an extra effort on the part of visitors to reach them from a major interstate; and (4) they all have annual visitation within a range of 90,000 to 290,000 visitors per year.

The Battle For The Bridge site, by comparison, (1) is likewise Civil War related, so would likely draw upon the same visiting mass; (2) is not part of a recognized park system, which would tend to reduce visitation numbers below that of the other compared sites, but (3) is very easy to reach from both I-65 and 31W, which would tend to increase visitation numbers over that of the other compared sites; and therefore (4) it would seem likely that visitation numbers would settle somewhere within the same range exhibited by the comparison sites, perhaps within three to five years. As the park will not be part of a national or state park system, and will therefore not have any governmental appropriation or other funding to sustain it, it is necessary for the site to attract as many visitors as resource protection considerations will tolerate; the emphasis on publicity will, therefore, also tend to push visitation numbers higher. Such a concerted publicity effort would further serve to bring the site into the public consciousness and offset any negative influence from the site not being a part of an established park system. In addition, if the site achieves National Historic Landmark status, the distinction will be further blurred.

While such analysis suggests a potential approximate visitation of as many as 250,000 visitors per year within three to five years, visitor load is expected to be no more than moderate in the first two to three years. Although initial planning envisioned the historic Anthony Woodson House as the Visitor Center and Museum, it has become plain that a secondary structure will have to be constructed in the near term (2-3 years) to provide basic visitor service in the long term. Given the impetus to open the site, however, the Woodson House will have to be configured to serve all Visitor Center functions in Phase I while funds are being raised for new construction and while that construction is planned and implemented in Phase II.

1.4 Composite Planning Considerations

Much of the detailed information usually incorporated within Planning Considerations already exists for this site and is contained within the Preservation Plan.

For detailed Historical Background, please consult Chapter II, The History.

For Park Environment Considerations, please consult Chapter III, The Landscape, pages 49-65.

For Adjacent Land Uses and Trends, please consult Chapter III, The Landscape, pages 66-90.

For Existing Conditions, please consult Chapter III, The Landscape, pages 84-88.

1.5 Summary of Problems and Needs

As this is a start-up operation, there are naturally numerous challenges attendant on getting the project in motion. The most pressing of these concern issues of site access, a lack of baseline information, and the need to initiate a revenue stream from the site at an early stage.

One of the critical barriers to the site development is the fact that the battlefield is bisected by the CSX rail line. The railroad is not an intrusion; indeed, its prior usage by the L&N line during the Civil War is perhaps the primary reason that nationally significant events occurred here, and is thus integral to the story. Its presence does, however, pose a daunting problem with respect to accessing the Stockade side of the battlefield. Three alternatives have been suggested for crossing the line: a simple over-grade crossing, a suspended walk extended under the railroad bridge (likely an ambitious venture), and the re-excavation and use of a tunnel under the tracks purported to have been constructed as a part of the rifle entrenchment works. Consultation with the regional supervisor for CSX has revealed that the company is unlikely to permit an over-grade crossing at any convenient point on the line at this location, as any train in transit around the south bend or across the bridge would not be able to stop in time in the event of a pedestrian wandering onto the track. Similar consultation suggests that the suspended walk might be an acceptable option, but no serious analysis of the option has as yet been undertaken. The third option, that of the historic tunnel, is predicated on the accuracy of an account handed down directly from local men who fought at the time of the battle to a current resident, Mr. Bill Seymour. The soldiers, Mr. Seymour's great uncles, related that the rifle entrenchments associated with Fort Craig joined those associated with the Stockade at one point along the rail line – and met via a masonry-lined tunnel beneath the track. When the entrenchments were filled in, the soldiers say, the tunnel was also filled, but the masonry was not removed, and therefore must still be in place. Since the soldiers were stonemasons by trade, it seems likely that their story could be true. But period maps of the battlefield are not consistent as to the location of the entrenchments, and the determination of whether the tunnel actually exists, and where, must be the result of archeological investigation. Even if the existence of the tunnel is confirmed, the feasibility of its excavation and use as an access is still open to question, and so is the entire issue of access to the Stockade area.

Such a lack of baseline information affects the site development on several levels. There has been no Archeological Overview and Assessment of the site, which limits the potential accuracy of interpretation and leaves concern as to the safety of cultural resources on the ground in the face of site development. A similar lack of archival information is the result of the burning of the county courthouse in 1928, with the loss of all records, and the fact that local memory of these events has been gradually eroding over the last 130 years. The lack is most critically felt as relating to site development in the Woodson House/Visitor Center area. The dating of structures and the establishment of a period of significance has been problematic, complicating efforts at interpretive planning.

Similarly, site planning has been complicated by a lack of reliable figures for visitation. Consultation with several Civil War-related parks has revealed that, for various reasons mostly relating to counting methods, no reliable comparison figures are available anywhere within the industry; we must therefore draw very raw data and make broad and somewhat speculative assumptions upon which to base necessarily concrete planning considerations.

In an effort to address these major imponderables, this plan has adopted a phased approach, laying out actions for a first Phase, to function for at least two to three years, and a second Phase, to carry the project into full implementation. The implementation of Phase I will allow a partial operation of the site, and initiate the revenue stream from fee collection what will make possible the management and development necessary to arrive at Phase II and full operation.

The challenge, then, is to discover ways of interpreting the whole story with only some of the resources and locations available to do so.

“...here was Bragg’s fatal mistake, for he felt confident that if the two armies had met at the Green River, as Bragg intended, the Confederacy could have crushed the Federal army, and with the aid of many thousand assured recruits it could have held the state.”

– Adam Rankin Johnson

Section 2

Themes and Objectives

These themes and objectives were formulated at a series of brainstorming meetings with the Battle for the Bridge Committee, comprising some of the most knowledgeable sources of local information about the battles. The Committee took as a given the principle that the most telling information about the events of Munfordville/Woodsonville remains to be rediscovered by new research; but also that the core of the story is well known, and a solid framework of interpretive concepts could be built from the known stories. Topics were pooled, ranked in order of significance, and then a series of broad themes were developed to encompass these themes. These themes will guide the interpretive direction, and the topics will inform individual media.

2.1 Themes

Theme I. Basic to an understanding of events that took place here is a broader grasp of the course of national and regional history that led to this point, and followed from it. This theme encompasses the following concepts:

- National context of the local conflict
- Transportation and its significance in the Civil War period

Specific related topics: 2, 9

Theme II. The complexities of military actions, and the strategies and leadership that guided them, are key to an understanding of how and why events unfolded, and the consequences that followed, and it is critical that visitors finish their experience with a clear understanding of the events of the battles and their position on the ground.

This theme encompasses the following concepts:

- Military strategy in the battles
- Order of battle
- War infrastructure and preparations

Specific related topics: 1a(1), 1a(2), 1a(3), 1a(4), 1b(1), 1b(2), 1b(3), 1c, 10, 13

Theme III. The Civil War's most poignant meaning is reflected in the personal observations of those individuals, from all walks of life, who lived through it. This theme encompasses the following concepts:

- The ironies of this conflict – the gallantry of officers, etc.
- The perspectives of individual soldiers in the conflict
- The role of women in the Civil War experience in Hart County
- The African-American Civil War experience in Hart County
- Life under military occupation
- Lifeways during the Civil War period
- The reality of war and casualties, and the treatment of the dead

Specific related topics: 1b(7), 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11

Theme IV. The actions and decisions, and even the demise of prominent figures were the engines that moved history here and on a national scale. This theme encompasses the following concept:

- Prominent leaders – Buckner, Bragg, Buell, Wilder, Terry, Chalmers, Morgan, Smith, Sachs

Specific related topics: 1a(5), 1a(6), 1b(2), 1b(4), 1b(5), 1b(6), 1b(7), 7, 11

Theme V. Critical to the understanding of events in any historical period is an understanding of the historic scene or setting. This theme encompasses the following concepts:

- The town of Old Munfordville during the Civil War
- Historic maps, landscapes, and the significance of place-names

Specific related topics: 6, 14

Theme VI. Enlightened stewardship is vital to our ability to preserve the past so that we can glean value from the experiences of those who came before us. This theme encompasses the following concepts:

- Historic preservation
- Archeology
- Stewardship policies and practices

Specific related topic: 12

2.2 Specific Related Topics

Topic 1 The Battles for the Bridge (military actions)

Topic 1a The Battle of Rowletts Station, Dec. 17, 1861

- (1) The destruction of the Railroad Bridge
- (2) The arrival and preparations of McCook
- (3) Building of the Pontoon Bridge
- (4) Order of battle
- (5) The death of Col. Benjamin Terry
- (6) The death of Lieut. Sachs

Topic 1b The Battle of Sept. 14-17, 1862 (The Battle of Munfordville)

- (1) Order of battle
- (2) Col. Chalmers' "injudicious attack" and Bragg's response
- (3) The Bacon Creek derailment/reinforcement of Fort Craig
- (4) The death of Col. Robert Smith
- (5) The demise of Col. Cyrus Dunham
- (6) The impact of Buckner's local knowledge on events
- (7) The Wilder/Buckner story

Topic 1c The Battle of Green River Crossing, Sept. 21, 1862

- (1) Order of battle
- (2) Conflict in the streets of Munfordville

Topic 2. The Louisville and Nashville Railroad Bridge and Railroad

Topic 2a Construction of the Pontoon Bridge

Topic 2b Albert Fink and the architecture of the Bridge

Topic 2c The role of rail supply in the Civil War

Topic 2d The Key family – construction and demolition of the Bridge piers

Topic 3. The Union Occupation of Munfordville and its effects

Topic 3a Camp Dunham

Topic 3b Camp Wood

Topic 3c Depot Encampment

Topic 3d Encampment at Fort Willich

Topic 4. Civilian Hardship in the area during wartime/ the role of women

Topic 4a. The effect of military foraging

Topic 4b Seizure of private property

Topic 4c The Anthony Woodson story

Topic 4d The suffering of women and children

Topic 5 The African-American experience in Hart County during the Civil War

- Topic 5a The story of the U.S. Colored Troops in Hart County during the Civil War
- Topic 5b Conscription and mustering in Hart County
- Topic 5c Camp life of the U.S.C.T.
- Topic 5d The war experience of noncombatant African-Americans in Hart County

Topic 6 Old Munfordville during the Civil War

- Topic 6a Thomas Bolin Munford and the Old Munford Inn
- Topic 6b Historic use of buildings in Munfordville
- Topic 6c The National Turnpike

Topic 7 The beginnings of John Hunt Morgan as a Confederate raider

- Topic 7a Mustering and swearing-in in Munfordville and Woodsonville
- Topic 7b Outlying skirmishes in Hart County and the destruction of the Bacon Creek Bridge

Topic 8 Local sympathies during the Civil War

- Topic 8a The Wood family
- Topic 8b Buckner and Wood
- Topic 8c Patterns of local sympathy

Topic 9 The broader context of the events in Hart County within the Western Theater and the National

- Topic 9a Impact on the Confederate Kentucky campaigns
- Topic 9b Significance within the events in the Western Theater of the Civil War
- Topic 9c Significance within the national context of the Civil War
- Topic 9d Bragg versus Buell

Topic 10 The development of fortifications and artillery in Hart County

- Topic 10a Construction of fortifications in Hart County
- Topic 10b Placement of artillery in Hart County fortifications

Topic 11 The treatment and commemoration of the dead

- Topic 11a The Col. Robert Smith Monument
- Topic 11b 10th Mississippi Monument
- Topic 11c “Unknown Soldier” Monument
- Topic 11d Green River Church and Cemetery

Topic 12. The importance of cultural heritage stewardship

- Topic 12a Historic preservation
- Topic 12b Archeological potential
- Topic 13 Current research/findings

Topic 13 The role of communications during the conflict

- Topic 13a Contemporary news coverage
- Topic 13b Military Intelligence

Topic 13c Official correspondence and communiqués

Topic 14 The historic scene

Topic 14a Historic maps and their interpretation

Topic 14b The period landscape

Topic 14c Place-names

2.3 Objectives

Management Objectives Relating to Interpretive Planning

The Battle for the Bridge Project (the Project) is dedicated to three principal goals:

1. To Preserve the Civil War resources of Hart County
2. To Educate the public about the significance of these resources, and
3. To Maintain and Improve the quality of life for the citizens of Hart County

Detailed information about these goals and objectives is contained in the site *Preservation Plan*.

Preservation is the primary goal of the Project. The following objectives support this goal:

Objective 1 Fort Craig

The Project will take measures to stabilize the earthen fortifications of Fort Craig and present the works in such a way as to allow visitors to envision its function while having no physical impact on it. Grounds throughout the site will be kept and maintained, erosion mitigated, and viewing points improved.

Objective 2 Woodsonville Cemetery

The Project will restore and maintain the Woodsonville Cemetery by inventorying and mapping its contents, by restoring damaged or fallen markers, by providing a protective wrought-iron fence, and by providing for regular grounds-keeping and necessary marker repair.

Objective 3 Woodson House

The Project will restore and undertake the adaptive re-use of the Woodson House and adjoining buildings as the primary visitor contact point and educational center, keeping in focus its period significance and integrity.

Objective 4 Chapline Building

The Project will restore and undertake the adaptive re-use of the Chapline Building as the auxiliary (north side) visitor contact point emphasizing north side Civil War resources as well as non-Civil War-related resources. Facilities will be made available for the preservation and study of objects and materials of interest to researchers, and space will be made available for research.

Objective 5 Smith Monument

The Project will take measures to stabilize the Smith Monument, if necessary, and to improve and augment, if necessary, the wrought-iron fencing surrounding it. The Project will provide means for visitors to view the Monument in a respectful fashion while at the same time preventing visitor access to the adjacent CSX property. *These actions are contingent upon the grant of a conservation easement incorporating this property.*

Objective 6 Mississippi Monument

The monument to the 10th Mississippi, currently situated between the stairs of the old church, will be relocated to a place of honor in the Stockade area, where it can be properly interpreted and appreciated.

Objective 7 Other Resources

The Project will actively work to encourage stewardship of heritage resources among county landowners by offering technical assistance and advice in the best means to preserve and augment historic properties.

The Project holds education as one of its primary goals, second only to preservation. The following objectives support this emphasis:

Objective 8 Perspective

The Project will provide education services that involve a wide perspective of insights onto the subject matter, including the perspectives of women and minorities as integral facets of our understanding of these events.

Objective 9 Acquisitions

The Project will strive to expand its collection of historic objects and properties that will enable it to more effectively illustrate and explain the facts and issues presented in its educational message.

Objective 10 Orientation and Interpretation

The Project will provide and maintain materials, facilities, and services enabling visitors to easily orient themselves within the broader site, using both personal and non-personal interpretive techniques, but relying principally on exhibitry and printed matter.

Objective 11 Special Events

The Project will develop and implement a series of special events to highlight its themes and encourage public goodwill. Such events may include interpretive encampments, reenactments, cultural demonstrations, and folkways exhibits. All event content shall be appropriate and authentic to the site and its thematic periods, and shall observe the proper respect for the site and its significance.

Objective 12 Outreach

The Project will develop programs to be used off-site, including school curricula, and when and where feasible will present programs off-site. This outreach could be developed into the concept of an organized Heritage Education Program.

Objective 13 Accessibility

The Project will provide a reasonable level of access to the site in such a way that all people will have the opportunity to understand the site's themes. Reasonable access will be provided to site facilities.

Objective 14 Publicity

The Project will engage in active publicity of its programs and message, in order to draw visitors and to expand the reach of its educational mission.

Objective 15 Cooperation With Peer Organizations

The Project will work with other area heritage and natural resource organizations to further the goals of preservation, education, and economic development both locally and throughout the Commonwealth and region. This activity will include, but is not limited to, joint programs and mutual promotion.

Objective 16 Research

The Project will encourage research, and conduct research, in all matters of county history. In specific, the Project will conduct research within the greater project area, with the permission and assistance of landowners, to determine the nature, extent, purpose, and location of the works in the area of the Stockade, trenches, and Fort Craig; in the Fort Terrill and Fort Willich area; and at the several encampment locations.

Vital to the accomplishment of these goals is the need to retain the current character of the communities of Woodsonville and Munfordville, along with the understanding that implementation of the project will, necessarily, bring some change. The following objectives support this commitment:

Objective 18 Aesthetic Consideration

The Project will work to preserve the way of life of Woodsonville and Munfordville residents living in proximity to areas of visitor traffic, by implementing measures to ensure privacy, quiet, and the physical characteristics of these places. The Project will actively work to encourage the responsible development of the community in such a way as to retain the character and ambiance of Woodsonville and Munfordville. The Project will maintain its physical plant in such a way as to ensure a safe, attractive, and appropriate setting by providing for mowing, garbage collection, upkeep of exteriors and interiors, and by other means.

Objective 19 Economic Consideration

The Project will work with landowners to pursue land-use planning that will enable agriculture to persist as a viable means of making a living in these communities. In specific, the Project will construct its physical plant and policies in such a way as to offer the least possible interference with farming on the lands on which it has easement

Objective 20 Traffic Mitigation

The Project will implement its plan in such a way as to minimize any impact of visitor traffic. Specifically, Project operations will cross the Charlie Dowling Road in only one location, and visitor pedestrian traffic will be contained within fencing. Visitor vehicular traffic will be drawn into the site from an entry off of Highway 31W, not the Dowling Road. The larger increase of traffic through Munfordville will be a noticeable factor, but the change may actually prove a benefit by providing the impetus for long-needed road and traffic-light improvements.

Objective 21 Access to the Woodsonville Cemetery

The Project will work to ensure unhindered access to the Woodsonville Cemetery by Woodsonville residents. Visitor traffic will be routed over the Seymour fields to Fort Craig and thence around the cemetery by means of attractive wrought-iron protective fencing.

In addition to the three core goals, a fourth principle applies to all these endeavors:

Objective 22 Sustainability

The Project will perpetuate itself by being a self-sustaining concern, relying on endowment proceeds and site revenues to meet operating expenses and provide for the enhancement of the site's facilities and programs. The Project will adopt fee strategies as necessary to ensure an adequate flow of revenue, while at the same time endeavoring to keep its resources and message within reach of all people. While some fund-raising will be necessary and beneficial, ongoing fund-raising will not be the primary means of the Project's continuance.

“We have dress parade... and we are drilled very well, the former slaveholders open their eyes, astonished that their former working stock are capable of being on an equal footing with them at last.”

- George Thomas
12th U.S. Colored Artillery

Section 3

The Plan

3.1 *The Vision, or Desired Visitor Experience*

War stirs emotions of excitement, apprehension, patriotism, pride, sadness, dread and fascination. The Civil War, in particular, evokes deep significance in the hearts and minds of Americans, forging, as it did, our common sense of nation. The image in the mind of a courageous roar and charge is different than, but equal to, the image of a stricken body on the field, his eyes cast to Heaven. Which of this spectrum of impressions the Visitor achieves will be governed by the treatment of the site. And ideally, the site's interpretation should facilitate the experience of each perspective. This park, from its initial conception, has never been solely about cannonballs, diagrams, and orders of battle; it is envisioned as a place where the human story of the war was paramount, and the presentation of multiple perspectives critical to the telling of it. It is to be a place where the glories of war are at once lauded and called into question. The proposals that follow are designed to foster that outcome.

3.2 *Implementation of the Vision*

This plan proposes interpretation, orientation, and information media treatments for the Battle For the Bridge Historic Preserve, as well as the infrastructure needed to effect those treatments. The discussion is broken down into the three primary site components:

- The Visitor Center Area/Woodson House and Grounds
- The Battlefield
- The Chapline Building/Old Munfordville

For reasons detailed in the *Summary of Problems and Needs*, above, the implementation of this vision for the park must be implemented in two parts, **Phase I** and **Phase II**.

In addition, discussion is provided on:

- Personal Services
- Staffing
- Outreach (Heritage Education Program), and
- Extended Interpretive Vision for the project.

3.3 Phase I

3.3.1 Summary of Proposed Visitor Experience

Pre-Arrival

Visitors will gain an awareness of the site through a coordinated publicity campaign targeted at local and statewide media, highway entry stations, and other outlets like the official Kentucky vacation guide. The principal medium for this thrust will be the site brochure, to be placed at Interstate entry stations and in regional brochure racks.

A significant part of this publicity campaign will take the form of an internet website that will provide basic information about how and when to visit, and will provide some introductory and interpretive content about the site. At a minimum the website should mirror the information provided in the site folder.

In addition, signage will be placed strategically in the Hart County/Barren County area along U.S. Highway 31W and Interstate 65. As soon as the site meets the requirements for the official “brown sign” on the Interstate, such a sign should be placed on the north and south approaches to exit 65. It is recommended that the text read “Battle For The Bridge Civil War Park” in order to clarify the nature of the site. In the event that the National Historic Landmark nomination for the site is accepted in April, 1999, the sign text should be changed to “Battle For The Bridge National Historic Landmark.” Smaller, directional signage should be placed at the junctions of Highway 31W at Glendale, Sonora, Upton, and Bonnierville in Hart County, and possibly at Park City in Barren County; at the junction of highway 31W and Highway 90 in Cave City, and potentially on Highway 31E at Hardyville and Uno in Hart County, Griderville in Barren County, and in Hodgenville in Larue County, near Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site. A brown tourism sign may be added to those already in place off the Horse Cave exit of I-65, directing visitors to the junction with 31W; a corresponding directional sign would then be needed at that junction to move traffic north on 31W to the site. Similarly, a brown tourism sign will be needed at the junction of 31E and 218, with a corresponding directional sign.

Arrival

Visitors approaching the Munfordville area will be guided by clear signage either south from the I-65 interchange through historic Munfordville and across the Green River Bridge with supplemental signage. Just prior to the 31W/hwy88 interchange, a sign should indicate the distance to the entrance to the site, to prevent vehicles from turning down the Dowling Road. Approaching from the south, visitors will be directed with clear signage past the Charlie Dowling Road entrance to the site entrance ahead on the left.

An attractive entrance sign will greet visitors at the turn-in; it will be ground-set and low-key, but prominent enough that there is no confusion as to where to turn in. A new entry lane, running parallel to the north of the current entry lane, should be created, leaving the arbor of trees intact to serve as a buffer with the adjoining property. Prior to turning in to the parking lot, visitors will see on their left a welcoming sign. Visitors will then encounter a parking lot of approximately 20 spaces, with medians attractively planted in indigenous trees. Parking will be well-marked and arranged to segregate passenger vehicles from buses and RVs. An area will be left in grass on the east side of the lot to serve as overflow parking. The area to the east of this grassy area will be attractively fenced and left for the grazing of horses and/or other farm animals, contributing to the agrarian feel of the park. Plantings on the eastern boundary will shield the lot from immediate view of Highway 31W, to enhance a sense of separation from the modern world and entry into a separate place and time.

3.3.2 Visitor Center Area Operations and Media (Woodson House and Grounds)

Grounds

As soon as the visitors step from the parking area into the site, they should get a feeling of stepping out of the confusion of the modern world and back into a simpler time, a time when the simplicity of life provided a starker contrast with the confusion of war. A path leading from the parking lot will begin to make the transition. The entry node visitors encounter as they emerge from the parking area, located near the head of the 31W lane, will feature a kiosk with orientation panels, and the welcoming sign they encountered on their drive into the property. A new restroom/vending structure will occupy this area, and this structure will be designed and constructed as an integral

part of a Phase II Visitor Center construction, but will serve independently in Phase I. The building design will be congruous with the site feeling, and not draw attention to itself stylistically.

A path will guide the visitors to the rear of the house and to a series of walkways making a circuit around the open area to the north of the house. These walkways will make a circuit, following historic paths, from the Woodson House to the Model-T Shed to the Barn and back to the house, with offshoot paths to the picnic area, the restrooms, the Memorial Garden, and the Battlefield. picnic area, restrooms, vending, and memorial garden. Low-profile routed signs will provide direction at the path junctions.

A small picnic area (approximately 6 tables), situated along the north end of the parking lot, will enjoy the shade of the existing trees as well as that of the trees to be planted.

The Memorial Garden will occupy and expand upon the space of the current garden in the back yard of the Woodson House. The area will honor Confederate Col. Robert Smith, and will be planted with native flowering plants. Central to the garden will be a stone monument/bronze plaque combination bearing the interpretive message. The emphasis of the garden is to be on maintaining a low-key, shady, contemplative place.

The tree centered in the front yard of the house will be removed to open the viewshed across the Battlefield, allowing the flanking trees to act as a kind of proscenium beyond which glimpses of the stage of action can be seen, intriguing the visitor. The tree to be removed was severely damaged by a recent storm and its removal is necessary for safety as well as aesthetic reasons.

Anthony Woodson House

Downstairs Addition

This room will house information desk, fee collection, and orientation functions. It will serve as the entry, through the east door (expanded to a double door), to the rest of the house. Since this is the point of first impression for the Visitor Center, an introductory exhibit will be presented here in such a way as to attract the attention of anyone coming in the door. It is recommended that the *Harper's Weekly* lithograph of the Battle of Munfordville (color tinting) be enlarged to mural size and presented along the south wall at an angle or curve which intrudes somewhat into the body of the room.

The Information Desk will occupy the southwest corner of the room, curving from the Foyer door around to a point east of the existing bathroom door. The bathroom will be used as a staff facility and storage area. The Information Desk is a staffed area, will supply print media and serve as the fee collection point.

The open "window" on the north wall will be closed and the north wall used for three orientation panels depicting the Visitor Center and Grounds area, the park layout, and the greater Woodsonville/Munfordville area.

In addition, a donation box will be located near the Information Desk. It will be similar to an ammunition crate, subdivided into 50 small compartments and labelled by state to encourage competitive donation. A similar box is used successfully at Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park.

Downstairs Rear Room

This room will serve as the Audio-Visual presentation area. At least early in Phase I, the presentation should be an audio-keyed slide program of approximately 15 minutes in duration. Later, after content is more firmly settled, the program should be converted to laserdisc and/or video and shown using large-screen TV or a TV projection system. Depending on available funding, it may be advisable to convert the slide program to video early on to avoid the mechanical problems that often plague slide programs.

The A/V presentation will give a broad overview of the site context in relation to the Civil War and the Western Theater; the order of battle, maps of battle, forces and personalities involved, and the occupation in the aftermath. Visitors leaving the presentation will have a good base of knowledge for appreciating a tour of the battlefield.

Downstairs Center Room

This room will introduce visitors to the context of the events that took place here, and the key persons involved in them. The lower lighting levels here and the relatively larger amount of available wall space call for standing/panel exhibitry, which lends itself to graphic depictions such as maps, lithographs, photography, and portraiture. Panel mounted object cases may also be utilized. Because this set of exhibits helps set the tone for the rest of the experience, it is critical that all three conflicts be addressed, but with a proper balance of emphasis, given an understanding the the Battle of Munfordville(Woodsonville) carries the greatest significance and will command the bulk of the interpretive effort in the following exhibits and on the field. Visible on the entry-facing wall at ceiling level, will be the Lincoln quotation, "I hope to have God on my side, but I have to have Kentucky." The other panels in the room will, with strong graphic elements, explain the context of the local events in the Western Theater and the entire Civil War, and also sketch the character of the principal players in the conflicts.

Downstairs Front Room North

This room will present Exhibits designed to provide in-depth understanding of the major themes. The south wall will present large-format battle maps, and in close proximity will be a free-standing relief map table (topographic scale model of the battlefield) placing all elements of the battlefield on the ground in such a way as to quickly orient the visitor. Care must be taken in preparing exhibitry to illustrate the battles in detail, as there is a tendency to produce static displays which have difficulty expressing a sequence of events in motion.

The west bay area will be left open to provide a view of the battlefield. The north wall will present a set of exhibits concerning the building, destruction, and rebuilding of the Green River Bridge; its designer, Albert Fink; and the stonemasons who constructed the piers, the Key family. This thematic treatment will make use of the Key family objects (stonemason's tools, plumb-bob, etc.). Care must be taken to coordinate the content of this thematic treatment with that of the wayside exhibit at the Green River Bridge on the Stockade side in Phase II.

The east wall exhibits will explain the establishment and types of artillery and artillery emplacements around the battlefield. Cannonballs, shells, shrapnel, and other objects from the Hart County Historical Museum collection will be incorporated. There should be some foreshadowing of the Ketchum's Battery area on the front lawn, which the visitors will soon experience.

Foyer

This small area will feature a display panel on the Anthony Woodson House and Grounds. It must be noted that this interpretive point must explain the Woodson property in terms of its actual period of documentary significance, circa 1880-1900. The explanation of the property will lead to a discussion of the man, his losses during the war, and his claims for war reparations, and thus to the site's connection with the events of 1862.

Downstairs Front Room South

The Sutler Shop will occupy this area. The shop will offer a range of site-specific publications as well as a moderate range publications applying to the Western Theater of the war, and a few popular or comprehensive titles of general applicability to the Civil War. Music, videos, maps, and selected high-quality Civil War-related curios such as flags, fifes, replica bullets, miniature artillery, and replica Confederate currency may also be made available. Local quality crafts may be offered if they are in keeping with the "feel" of the site. It is recommended that the shop not stock low-quality gift items (avoiding plastic as much as possible); nor should the shop offer mock weapons for children. Please refer to the *Sutler Shop Plan* for operational details and stock bibliography/manifest.

Upstairs Front Room North

This room will give an overview of the Union Occupation of Munfordville, and will include themes of the experience of the common soldier and the African Americans affected. The Occupation (or "occupations", as more than one encampment was established here) had a profound effect not only on the rural communities of Munfordville and Woodsonville, but also on the soldiers stationed there and the civilians obliged to put up with them. The depredations of widespread foraging, the stress on people and resources, the tedium of camp life, the loss of personal property, and the duress of mandatory service all affected various populations. A central focus of this room will be a three-dimensional reconstruction of the *Harper's Weekly* lithograph of Camp Life, furnished with detail pieces. Replica letters from soldiers may be displayed, along with quoted material. A standing panel map locating the

various encampments will also reside in the room. Mannequins adorned with soldiers' uniform and kit may also be employed. Another major interpretive point in this room is a treatment of the African-American experience in Munfordville, with a partial focus on the U.S. Colored Troops.

Upstairs Center Room

This room will serve as Administrative Offices.

Upstairs Rear Room

This room will serve as Administrative Offices.

Upstairs Front Room South

This room will expand upon the Occupation theme by interpreting the experience of the local women during the war. A plaster statue (white) of a period female will help center these displays.

As access to the second floor will be impossible for the mobility impaired, an on-demand video will be made available in the Foyer area for those who cannot navigate the stairs.

Summer Kitchen

The presence of a hearth in the Summer Kitchen makes it an intuitive area to interpret period domestic life. Objects and some interpretive signage will be used. The proximity to the Woodson House makes this a possible area for a brief docent-led program.

Barn

Access to the main barn will be restricted to personnel only, as it will be a working area. The former milking room on the right hand side of the barn, however, has the potential to be refitted as an exhibit area featuring period agriculture and agricultural implements from life on the Woodson farm from 1860-1900.. The auxiliary paddocks on the west side of the barn will serve as a venue for live folkways demonstrations and/or living history presentations. The pastures adjacent to the barn will be fenced and used for pasturage for the horses – incidentally providing a farm animal viewing experience for visitors. Consideration may be given to closing the main barn off with half-doors to allow the public to stand outside and look in, while preventing their entry.

3.3.3 *Battlefield Operations, Trails, and Media*

The battlefield will be accessed via a simple system of paths, 35 feet in width and fenced on both sides –fences at the park will be erected of split rails in the “snake rail” fashion, four rails tall. Consideration should be given to pinning the corners in the manner of Stones River NB for security, although this may not be the traditional method. The exception to this fencing guideline will be the Woodsonville Cemetery, which will be surrounded by a wrought-iron cemetery fence of moderate height to discourage visitors from walking across the cemetery.

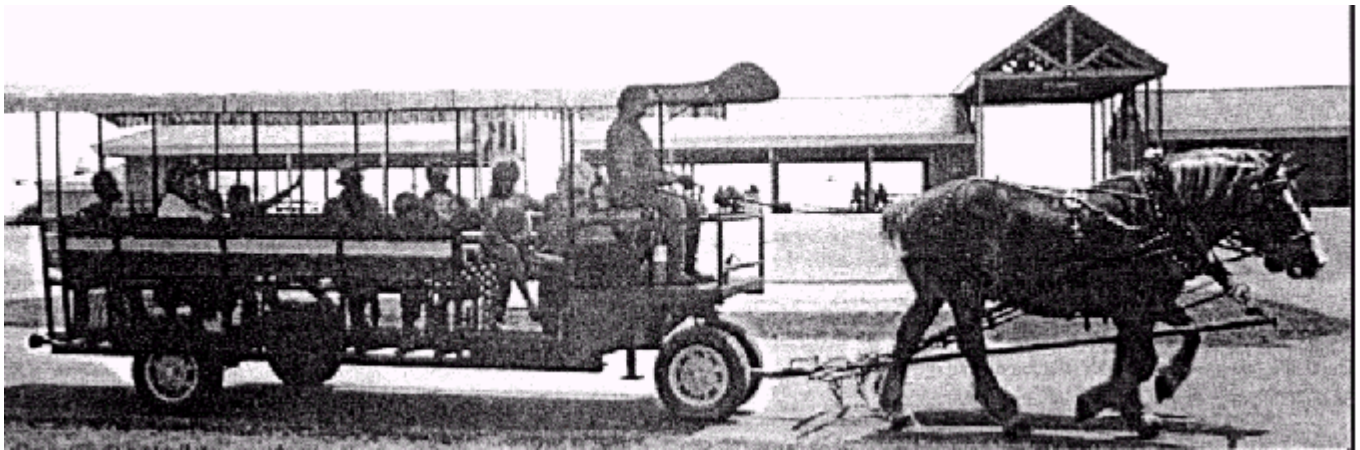
The route of the path will run from the Monument Gate on the Charlie Dowling Road west to the Pond Gate, then north along a zigzag course roughly approximating the location of the rifle trenches until it reaches the Fort Field Gate, then north a short distance to the stopping point near Fort Craig. From this point, the short approach to Fort Craig is by foot, leading to a boardwalk that will circle the fort to the rear, affording views of the Railroad Bridge, the river bottom, the bluffs on the north side, the fort interior, and the view east across the cemetery. On the east side of the Fort the boardwalk will ramp down to a ground path leading south to the larger cemetery gate, then east to just beyond a line of pines, then north following this line to the steps of the Green River Church. This last north leg is exposed on the east to a private home and a planting must therefore be made to ensure the privacy of the residents and to mitigate this viewshed impact for visitors. A wrought-iron cemetery fence is to be erected around the Cemetery to prevent visitor intrusion. The entire route is approximately 2 miles round-trip. There is no alternate access contemplated for Fort Craig and the Cemetery. All prescribed wayside exhibits will be installed along the Fort Craig route in Phase I.

A covered pavilion will be erected at the Pond Gate and two interpretive wayside exhibits facing south will explain the Battle of Rowletts Station as the visitor faces in the direction of that battle.

Visitors will approach the battlefield down the existing lane toward the Charlie Dowling Road, and encounter a replica artillery piece trained on Fort Craig, visible across the field. A sign will explain that this piece marks the position of Ketchum's Battery, a Confederate unit, during the conflict. A pause here will allow visitors to take in the entire sweep of the battlefield, as most of the principal points of interest are visible from this vantage point.

Visitors will then cross the Dowling Road and enter the battlefield through the Monument Gate. It may be desirable to consider a treatment for this entry point, perhaps an arch or similar feature, as it has historically been notable in its own right. Beyond this gate to the left is a covered waiting area for the staging of wagon rides across the battlefield.

Although the principal method of access to the battlefield is by foot, a system of horse-and-wagon passenger conveyances is recommended as a fee activity to provide an alternate access to the field. Teamsters will drive teams and wagons along the course at regular intervals throughout the day, and will be instructed in basic site themes so that they may provide a level of personal interpretation as opportunity arises. The wagons are intended not simply as a conveyance, but also to help set a period feel; motorized or other modern conveyances will not be used in place of the wagons.



A second leg of the battlefield trail may be considered for Phase I construction, running from the Pond Gate west to the CSX ROW; and pending a resolution of the question of access to the Col. Robert Smith Monument. That trail may continue north between the ROW and a sunken, wooded area to the Monument, where a debarkation point for wagons will be installed, with a wayside exhibit and benches set out for seating. This would add a total of approximately .75 mile round trip to the route. If access to the Monument is not obtained, then the western line of this path may still be constructed in Phase I if funding is available, but it will not be used for public touring until Phase II.

Please see *Appendix C: Wayside Exhibit Needs Assessment* for details of wayside exhibit layout on the Battlefield.

3.3.4 Chapline Building/Old Munfordville Operations and Media

The Chapline Building, on Main Street in Munfordville, will serve as the base of operations for the Munfordville-side activities of the Project. In addition to serving as the launching platform for the Old Munfordville Walking Tour, the Chapline Building will continue in its current functions as the repository for historical and genealogical resources, research area, meeting area, and museum of those parts of Hart County's rich history not associated with the Civil War.

This building will serve a range of visitor needs, and its multi-function nature must be considered at all phases of design. As the principal point of visitor contact on the Munfordville side, the Chapline Building must have an information desk at the front of the building, along with a small sales area distinct in content from the sales area in

Woodsonville, and serve as a launching point for the Old Munfordville Walking Tour. Another important role of the building is as a genealogical and historical research area, one that is often frequented by elderly visitors for whom navigation of the stairs to the second floor would prove a problem. The rear part of the downstairs room must, then, continue to serve as a research area, but must be separated visually and aurally from the activity at the entrance by a removable partition. The partition could even serve as the base for a mural of Hart County history, which would be an exciting first impression for visitors arriving at the Chapline Building.

Space upstairs should be reconfigured as archival space to contain the Society's collection of objects. The storage area will be separated from the corridors by a series of wall panels configured to display and present selected objects that treat the rest of the county's history and help place the county's Civil War history into broader context. It is recommended that these panels be developed to concern the area before human occupation (the buffalo trace, for instance), pre-Columbian human habitation, the founding of Munfordville, pioneer families of Hart County, famous antebellum visitors, and period information from Reconstruction on. For Phase I, consideration should also be given to using one upstairs room, perhaps the rearmost, as the "Buckner Room," a space dedicated to Brigadier General Simon Bolivar Buckner and furnished with Buckner's actual effects. Some pieces of Buckner's furniture, including his bed, have been offered to the Hart County Historical Society for such a purpose, and it is appropriate as a project theme to focus on Buckner as a personality. Furniture, images, and personal effects such as his saddlebag and contents could all be incorporated into this furnished interpretive area. This area is visioned as moving to the Woodson House upstairs room south in Phase II.

It is recommended that the Chapline Building hours be expanded to cover the weekends, which will be peak times for visitation, and will allow a much greater access for researchers.

An assessment should be made as to what extent the Museum's sales function should mirror that of the Sutler Shop at the Visitor Center. It is assumed that one will support the Project, while the other will support the Historical Society's other goals, and a balance must be struck so that neither effort will stymie the other. It may be that a diversification of product lines in accordance with the diversification of exhibit emphases will provide sufficient difference that both can prosper without interfering with each other.

The Old Munfordville Walking Tour will continue to function as it traditionally has, as a primarily self-guided route. Limited docent-led trips may be offered, perhaps as a fee activity. It should not be necessary to upgrade the brochure to a color format, although a print run on a glossy enamel stock with a banner bleed may be considered. Stopping points on the walking tour route will be marked with modest low-profile ancillaries bearing only the Battle for the Bridge designator, the stop number, and a short caption for those who may not have the brochure in hand. These should be placed on the public right-of-way (sidewalk) adjacent to the property. Care will be taken in all publications to reinforce that these are private properties and that visitors should not trespass or disturb residents.

Serious consideration must be given to the availability of parking in Munfordville, which can be scarce at peak times. Whereas the current availability of parking is adequate for the incidental use the Museum gets, that visitation is likely to increase several fold over time, placing a strain on parking in downtown. Optimally, site publications would be able to indicate a designated area and direct visitors to that spot, rather than leaving them to fend for themselves. That area should not be too far from the Chapline Building, and the way clearly signed.

3.3.5 *Personal Services*

This Plan envisions the visitor experience at Battle for the Bridge Historic Preserve as a primarily self-conducting one. The act of visiting a battlefield requires time and an unhurried pace to allow contemplation and understanding, and this is best accomplished at the visitor's own pace. The layout of wayside exhibits, the access to the battlefield, and the publications program are all designed to facilitate this mode of visiting the site. For each activity, an Individual Service Plan will be developed to structure the program.

Guided Tours

The above having been noted, it must also be said that there is often no substitute for good, interactive, person-to-person interpretation by a knowledgeable guide, and to the extent feasible, this plan will recommend integrating guide- or docent-led interpretive programs into the interpretive matrix.

Staff will be limited in Phase I, so the range of personal interpretive programs will be limited. It may not be possible to offer more than one or two guided trips on the battlefield per day, perhaps one full Battlefield route and one Fort Craig route, as well as occasional guided Old Munfordville Walking Tours. These programs should be developed to interpret the battlefield thematically, and not merely a point-by-point show-and-tell approach to the resource. These are to be high-quality interpretive experiences, and may be developed as fee activities.

Talks

Talks presented in the Visitor Center or elsewhere on the Woodson House grounds should be developed on a range of topics designed to both supplement the exhibits and to treat secondary site themes not addressed in the non-personal media. While all site themes should ultimately be addressed within the site bulletin program, formal and informal talks can give the visitor a much deeper grasp of the subject matter. These talks will be developed with attention to theme, and carefully researched to ensure the accuracy of information. These talks may be presented at any of a number of forums on the grounds; the Woodson House (focusing on one exhibit, for example), the Memorial Garden, the Barn, the Ketchum's Battery area, etc.

Living History/Costumed Interpretation

These two terms are not synonymous; living history carries with it the sense of a much more exacting adherence to historical accuracy in order to fabricate a seamless illusion of a historical scene, while costumed programs capture a sense of history without the pretext of historical re-creation. There is a place for both techniques at Battle for the Bridge. Both types of interpretive activities will be designed as thematic programs.

Costumed Interpretation: It is probable that from time to time staff docents may wish to present interpretive talks or perform roving or attended station interpretive duties in period dress. Such programs can be presented without resorting to the detailed research or concentrated performance effort required for a true "re-creation" of an historical scene, and staff and volunteers need not be discouraged from incorporating a period "feel" to their programs. Such presenters will not, however, make any pretense of portraying a period personality. The interpreter will clearly be a modern person, and will not "shift in and out of character." Costume and props will be accurate to the period.

Living History: A living history program will be much less common. Living history requires a high level of research and preparation, and time spent "getting to know" the character that the performer will portray. Such performances at this site will likely be short-duration programs when performed by trained staff members, although it may also be possible to invite reenactors who have cultivated a very authentic portrayal for more protracted presentations such as encampments. Living history interpreters will remain in character for the duration of the performance. Costume, props, language and mannerism will be accurate to the period.

Battle Reenactments/Encampments

In keeping with the site tradition of reenactments of the action of battle on the battlefield, reenactments will continue to be a feature of the site as such displays have the ability, perhaps more than any other medium, of giving visitors a feel of what battle on this ground would have been like. It should be realized, however, that an attempt at a true large-scale reenactment of the battle, attempting to recreate the actual movements of troops on the ground, cannot be sustained on an annual basis. Rather, the site should look to a large reenactment only every third or fourth year, in cooperation with other sites in the Commonwealth such as Mills Springs Battlefield, in order to shuttle the activity around from year to year and keep the reenactor community interested in all the sites. In the intervening years, less ambitious events such as skirmishing or "living history" encampment may be staged.

It is the practice of some Kentucky reenactor groups to practice their field maneuvers in Hart County, and they have expressed an interest in being allowed to do so on the actual battlefield. Such an accommodation would provide an impromptu interpretive experience for visitors, and should be pursued.

All dealings with reenactor groups should be based in a well-considered set of policies, which should be developed as early as possible. Site programmers should understand that there are different levels of professionalism in the reenactor community, and should strive to work with those groups who hold to a high standard of conduct and who are accountable as a group for the behavior of their members. Reenactors represent a strong and enthusiastic base of volunteerism that can help the project achieve its goals.

Note: While it is the policy of National Park Service battlefields to prohibit simulated warfare, the Project Committee believes that there is an educational benefit to the portrayal of combat in that it imparts an understanding of the fear, violence, and confusion inherent in war. It will be the policy of the Preserve, however, to allow only those reenactments of battle that treat the subject with due gravity, and not merely as pageantry.

Special Events

Special events provide opportunities for focused interpretation, and can excite and energize the local community and visiting public. The site is already an integral part of one large county festival, and several other dates suggest appropriate times for celebrations or commemorations:

September 14-20: This project is expected to take on a large part of the planning function of Hart County's annual Civil War Days celebration, which is scheduled around the anniversary of the Battle of September 14-17 and the rearguard action of September 21. The site will partner with the Hart County Chamber of Commerce to plan, produce, and promote the festival, a significant portion of which is the reenactment and/or encampment.

December 17: There will be an annual observance of the anniversary of the Battle of Rowletts Station, with special interpretive programs. Possible activities might include a wreath-laying ceremony at Fort Willich, with the cooperation of the landowners, and special interpretive programs on the site of Camp Wood.

February: Black History Month will be observed with special visitor center displays and interpretive programs concerning the U.S. Colored Troops who were stationed at Munfordville. It might be desirable to locate a person like Hasan Davis, who portrays A.A. Burleigh of the 108th U.S.C.T. Heavy Artillery through the Kentucky Chautauqua system, to do presentations.

May: Memorial Day will be observed with special programs and/or ceremonies surrounding the Smith Monument, the Mississippi Monument, the Memorial Garden, and the Woodsonville Cemetery.

3.4 Phase II

3.4.1 Summary of Proposed Visitor Experience

Pre-Arrival

Signage on the incoming routes may be expanded as needed. The internet website content will be expanded to provide in-depth information so that visitors can become more informed about the site and its themes prior to arrival, and thus get more out of their visit.

3.4.2 Visitor Center Operations and Media (Woodson House and Grounds and New Visitor Center)

Grounds

Layout of the Woodson Grounds will not change in the implementation of Phase II, with two notable exceptions:

- A new Visitor Center facility will be constructed to occupy the area of the old lane east of the Phase I restroom construction.
- The primary entry to the Woodson House will shift from the rear of the building to the front, which will require some change in signage in the immediate vicinity of the house.

Visitor Center

As the Woodson House will not be able to accommodate visitation levels anticipated for Phase II, a new structure will need to be built to handle Visitor Center functions, leaving the Woodson House as an interpretive center. The new building will take on the following functions:

- Information Desk
- Fee Collection
- Orientation
- Sutler Shop
- Audio/Visual Theater

It is important that this building not compete visually with the Woodson House, so it will be designed and constructed in such a way as not to draw undue attention to itself, yet at the same time clearly be the point of entry for the park. The design will reflect the “feel” of the site. The structure will be connected to the Phase I restroom/vending structure. Although the new construction will dominate the space, visitors approaching the area from the parking lot will be able to choose to enter the restroom/vending area first and then move to the Visitor Center without any compromise of the arrival experience. An outdoor mural depicting the Battle of Munfordville will be one of the first images the visitor has when approaching the Visitor Center.

Within the Visitor Center, the Information Desk will serve the same functions as in Phase I, and the donation box will be situated near the entry. A staff office and sales storage area will be situated behind the desk. Visitors will move next within the building to the Sutler Shop, or have the option to move directly further down to the Audio/Visual Theater.

The audio/visual program will now carry a heavier responsibility of introducing visitors to the site themes, as it is now divorced from its prior association with the museum exhibits. As funding becomes available, the project should contract for the creation of a new version of the introductory presentation. This should be a short film on laserdisc, 15-20 minutes in length, with high production values, incorporating the same basic themes presented in the original media program.

The theater should comfortably seat 50 persons, to allow for school groups and tour coach groups.

Anthony Woodson House

This building now functions solely as a museum and interpretive center.

Foyer

This small area will remain unchanged from Phase I, except that it will serve as the primary point of entry for the building.

Downstairs Front Room South

The exhibitry formerly occupying the downstairs center room will shift to this room, as visitors are most likely to enter this room first after coming in the front door.

Downstairs Front Room North

This room will remain the same as in Phase I.

Downstairs Center Room

The exhibits formerly occupying the Upstairs Front Room North, interpreting the Union Occupation, the Common Soldier, and the African-American experience, will relocate to this room.

Downstairs Rear Room

The exhibits formerly occupying the Upstairs Front Room South, interpreting Women's Roles in the war, will relocate to this room.

Downstairs Addition

This room will be removed and replaced with a covered porch more reflective of the original condition of the house. The primary entry to the building will be via the front door. A path will lead off this porch to the Summer Kitchen and the Memorial Garden.

Upstairs Front Room North

This room will serve as Administrative Offices, or, if not needed as offices, it may be made available for the presentation of secondary interpretive themes.

Upstairs Center Room

This room will continue to serve as Administrative Offices.

Upstairs Rear Room

This room will continue to serve as Administrative Offices.

Upstairs Front Room South

This room will be available for the expansion of exhibitry to cover lesser site themes such as historic maps, archeology on the site, or resource stewardship. Depending on objects available, it could also be presented as the "Buckner Room" to honor and interpret Munfordville's Brigadier General Simon Bolivar Buckner.

As access to the second floor will be impossible for the mobility impaired, an on-demand video will be made available in the Foyer area for those who cannot navigate the stairs.

Summer Kitchen

Use of this structure will not change from Phase I.

Barn

Use of this structure will not change from Phase I.

3.4.3 Battlefield Operations, Trails, and Media

Development on the battlefield will continue from the point at which Phase I construction stopped, with a final objective of accessing and interpreting the Smith Monument and the Stockade site. As discussed in the Summary of Problems and Needs, above, the exact strategy for accomplishing these goals is dependent upon information not available at the time of this writing, and the writers strongly advocate an amendment to this document when more information becomes available.

In the interim, four possibilities for Stockade site access have been suggested, and can be addressed conceptually:

- An over-grade crossing to the Stockade area
- A passage through an exposed Entrenchment Tunnel
- A suspended walkway around the bridge abutments
- Vehicular access via the right-of-way off Rush Island road.

Over-grade crossing

Although this would seem at first to be the simplest approach to direct access from the eastern portion of the battlefield, certain problems are attendant to this strategy. It will be nearly impossible to provide a pedestrian crossing at this location and ensure that visitors will not stray onto the track. Similarly, the logistical problems inherent in getting a horse-and-wagon team across with guaranteed safety are daunting. Indeed, consultation with Mike Witherspoon, the regional CSX engineer out of Glasgow, has indicated that CSX would *not* grant permission for a pedestrian grade crossing at this location in *any* event, as no train crossing the bridge or approaching around the southern curve could, or would even try, to stop if someone were on the track. This would seem to eliminate an over-grade crossing as a prospect.

Entrenchment Tunnel

Assuming the existence of this purported tunnel is verified by archeology, a host of engineering questions must be answered as to the feasibility of excavation and track support so that this tunnel could be used again. At this writing there is not enough information to estimate the cost of such a project, nor has there been any communication with CSX to determine if such an approach would even be acceptable. Assuming all obstacles could be overcome, however, this approach offers a tantalizing interpretive prospect – that of using a historic means of crossing under – as well as the safest means of moving visitors from one site to the other, and the one direct route most likely to offer handicap accessibility.

If implemented, the battlefield trail would begin at the tunnel entrance on the Seymour/Williams side, continue, unfenced, on the west side, following the high ground to the Stockade Site (see *Stockade*, below.)

Suspended Walkway

The concept of navigating around beneath the southern end of the Railroad Bridge has been in consideration since early on the Preservation Planning process. Consultation with Mike Witherspoon suggests that CSX might well consider the option, as pedestrian underpasses have been constructed at other locations. Any realistic consideration must, however, await a resolution of the easement issue across the Williams property, and such an undertaking would, in any event, pose considerable engineering and funding challenges.

If implemented, the covered “catwalk” would begin at the Smith Monument, pass beneath the bridge, giving a close-up view of the historic stonework on the piers and the river below, and ascend to a viewing platform on the bluff above. (See *Stockade*, below).

Vehicular Access

Assuming that no direct access is possible from the eastern part of the battlefield, there exists the possibility of interpreting the Stockade site on a limited basis through guided trips on an infrequent basis. The Historical Society has retained a right-of-way off of Rush Island Road to access the site by car. Rush Island Road is a narrow, primarily residential lane unsuited to even moderate traffic volume, and children often ride bicycles along it. The route is not appropriate for a “driving tour” type scenario in which visitors are directed to the site. Rather, a guided caravan led by a staff vehicle would make the trip, perhaps once per day or less, to interpret the site. This would be a fee activity.

The right-of-way would have to be graded and paved with gravel, which would have the negative effect of encouraging unauthorized traffic onto the Stockade site. In addition, the residents of the locality likely will not appreciate the increased traffic of strange vehicles in their neighborhood. Both of these considerations caution careful reconsideration of this option, and it should only be considered if all else fails.

Stockade

Development of the Stockade site will require archeology to determine the exact layout of the works. Once that information is obtained, a paved walk will approximate the outline of the stockade, and two wayside exhibits will be erected at this point, facing Stone Quarry Hill and Summer Seat Knob, to interpret the stockade layout and nearby gun emplacements, respectively (see *Appendix C: Wayside Exhibit Needs Assessment*). A path will lead from this point to a viewing platform on the river bluffs adjacent to the south side of the CSX line. A wayside at this location will discuss the Railroad Bridge in detail respectively (see *Appendix C: Wayside Exhibit Needs Assessment*).

3.4.4 Chapline Building/Old Munfordville Operations and Media

The Chapline Building and Old Munfordville Walking Tour will continue to function as in Phase I, with the exception that the proposed “Buckner Room” display will be transferred to the Woodson House upstairs front room south and its room in the Chapline building will be made available for expanded or new non-Civil War exhibits.

Consideration may be given to developing a second walking tour brochure keyed to non-Civil War themes such as the Founding of Munfordville or the 1920s-1930s development era.

3.4.5 Personal Services

Personal Services in Phase II will build on those offered in Phase I, in the number and content of programs offered, to the extent that increased staffing is available. Any wayside exhibits that could not be completed and installed in Phase I will be implemented in Phase II. Efforts will be made to increase attendance at special events during each succeeding year.

3.5 *Staffing*

In an operation as small as this one will be for Phase I, every staff member has a direct impact on the interpretive quality of the site, so staffing recommendations fall within the purview of this document.

3.5.1 *Salaried Staff*

For Phase I, the site should have a Director, a paid secretary, a full-time paid staffer, a paid groundskeeper/repairman, and two paid full-time teamsters, one of whom should be made foreman of the horse-and-wagon program. In the summer season, two more teamsters may be needed for the season. In addition, the paid staff position at the Hart County Historical Museum should be increased to full-time.

By Phase II, one or two additional paid staffers may be needed to carry Visitor Center operations and interpretive functions.

3.5.2 *Volunteer Program*

The success of this site will depend largely on its ability to draw upon a volunteer base. The Hart County Historical Society has traditionally been very successful in mobilizing its membership to operate the Hart County Historical Museum, and this same membership base can be tapped to provide volunteers for site operations. Also, Hart County High School students may be approached for volunteer positions in the summer season. Volunteers can be tasked with Visitor Center operations, Sutler Shop operations, grounds-keeping, project work, and interpretation.

3.5.3 *Internship Program*

The site should consider implementing, as early as possible once the infrastructure is in place, an internship program in cooperation with Western Kentucky University's history, folklore, archeology, education, and parks and recreation departments. One or two University students per semester or summer session may gain college credit for project work on site. Such work might entail archival research and writing, oral history research, interpretive program development, curriculum development, and archeological research. The integration of an intern into the site's operations will serve the site by making possible projects that hired staff has no time to do and volunteer staff may not have the expertise to undertake. At least initially, such a program should extend only to WKU students, as it is unlikely the site will be able to offer housing. If an internship program is developed, it is recommended that a stipend be included; programs that offer some monetary compensation generally are more successful at attracting interns than those without.

3.6 *Heritage Education Program*

Education is one of the primary functions of the Battle for the Bridge Historic Preserve. This vision implies not merely a static role in supplying information to those who visit the site, but also in reaching out to the community. Curricula should be developed (Stones River NB has just completed a very useful model) and supplied to area schools. As staff time is available, off-site programs to local schools should be made available. In Phase II, the site should take advantage of the infusion of additional staff to expand this off-site program in frequency and geographic area, extending as far north as West Point and as far south as Franklin.

A Battle for the Bridge heritage program should attempt to forge connections with education efforts at Perryville, where such outreach has been ongoing, and where there is opportunity for mutual benefit in expanding interpretation of the Kentucky Heartland Offensive Campaign of 1862.

3.7 *Extended Interpretive Vision*

Hart County's Civil War resources are not limited to the immediate Woodsonville/Munfordville area. From the "unknown soldier's" monument near Horse Cave to the Bacon Creek bridge at Bonnieville, there are outlying sites that tell the story of the war and its impact on residents of the county. Interpretation of John Hunt Morgan's beginnings, particularly, touches on the various parts of the county where guerilla raids took place. The long-range vision for Battle for the Bridge includes interpretive strategies that encompass more remote areas. There are many stories still lurking in the corners and hollows of the county, and as these begin to emerge, a driving tour route may become possible, with turnoffs and/or wayside markers.

This extended vision can tie into planning for the Braxton Bragg and Morgan's Raid routes of the Kentucky Heartland Civil War Trails Commission development effort

“We travelled a good while without finding anything but we finally found some game in the shape of two secesh hogs one of which would dress 200 and the other 250 lbs and we picked on the latter ... You may call this stealing but we don’t. I think to take from a rebel that which a man wants to eat is not stealing but to take and destroy it that is wrong.”

– Private James Nesbitt

105th Ohio Infantry

Section 4

Associated Plans and Studies

The Following planning documents will aid full implementation of this interpretive plan, and should be completed as early as possible.

- **Archeological Overview and Assessment**
This survey will identify archeological resources on the site and recommend appropriate action to be taken for the preservation of these resources in the face of site development and visitor use. This survey is currently in the planning stages, with a Scope of Work expected by late May 1999.
- **Exhibit Design Plan**
This plan will guide interpretive exhibit design for the site. Preliminary concept work is being developed by Project staff, as groundwork for future contact with a professional exhibit design firm. Completion of the concept work expected by early June 1999.
- **General Management Plan**
The site's General Management Plan will serve as a roadmap for overall site operations. Elements of this plan have already been drawn up within the context of the Preservation Plan and this Interpretive Plan. A final GMP will need to be drafted by July 1999.
- **Reenactments Program Plan**
The special needs surrounding use of reenactors in interpretive functions at the site will be addressed by this plan. This plan is in progress, and is expected to be in place by May 1999.
- **Sutler Shop Plan**
This will constitute the business plan and thematic rationale for the Sutler Shop. This plan is in progress.
- **Wagon Tour Plan**
Logistics of the Wagon Tour operation will be spelled out in this plan, which is in progress, in consultation with a professional teamster. Completion expected in fall 1999.
- **Outdoor Exhibit Needs Assessment and Concept Plan**
This plan presents an overall concept for the development of wayside and other outdoor exhibits for the site, with site-specific layouts in rough form. Completed.
- **Pre-Development Plan for the Woodson House**
Pre-construction analysis of the Woodson House. Completed.
- **Pre-Development Plan for the Chapline Building**
Pre-construction analysis of the Chapline Building. Completed.

Section 5

Cost Estimates

For a breakdown of costs on this page, please reference the pertinent associated plans.

Woodson House Adaptive Use Rehabilitation	\$168,240.00
Woodson House Grounds Site Development	\$162,659.00
Fort Craig Site Boardwalks and Trails	\$57,600.00
Battlefield Trails	\$31,000.00
Rail Fences	\$41,000.00
Cemetery Fence	\$17,000.00
Cemetery Restoration	\$25,000.00
Wayside Rest Area	\$18,000.00
Livestock Barn Adaptive Use Rehabilitation	\$15,000.00
Other Outbuildings Adaptive Use Rehabilitation	\$15,000.00
Visitor Center Construction, Phases I & II	\$305,012.00
Chapline Building Adaptive Use Rehabilitation	\$175,127.00
Battlefield Land Acquisition	\$200,000.00
Stockade Site Access Structure	\$75,000.00
Pre-Development Archeological Survey	\$75,000.00
Office Furniture and Computers	\$25,000.00
Site Vehicle	\$25,000.00
Maintenance Equipment	\$10,000.00
Highway Directional Signage	\$10,000.00
Wayside Exhibit Design and Construction	\$50,000.00
Museum Exhibit Design and Construction	\$190,700.00
Wagons and Teams (2)	\$30,000.00
Replica Cannon (tubes and carriages) (2)	\$24,000.00
Sutler Shop (gift shop) Stock and Startup	\$50,000.00
Publications Program Startup	\$20,000.00
Startup Operations Funding	\$100,000.00
TOTAL	\$1,915,338.00

Section 6

Appendices

Appendix A: Programmatic Accessibility Guidelines for Interpretive Media

Appendix B: Tour Logistics

Appendix C: Publications Needs Assessment

Appendix D: Suggested Sutler Shop Inventory

Appendix A: Programmatic Accessibility Guidelines for Interpretive Media

This Appendix is adapted from a document prepared for the Stones River National Battlefield Interpretive Plan, 1996, prepared by the Harpers Ferry Center Accessibility Task Force, Harpers Ferry Design Center, National Park Service.

Statement of Purpose

This document is a guide for promoting full access to interpretive media to ensure that people with physical and mental disabilities have access to the same information necessary for safe and meaningful visits to Battle for the Bridge Historic Preserve. Just as the needs and abilities of individuals cannot be reduced to simple statements, it is impossible to construct guidelines for interpretive media in all situations.

These guidelines define a high level of programmatic access which can be met in most situations. They articulate key areas of concern and note generally accepted solutions. Due to the variety of interpretive situations, flexibility and versatility are important.

Each interpretive medium contributes to the total park program. All media have inherent strengths and weaknesses, and it is our intent to capitalize on their strengths and provide alternatives where they are deficient. It should also be understood that any interpretive medium is just one component of the overall park experience. In some instances, especially with regard to learning disabilities, personal services, that is one-on-one interaction, may be the most appropriate and versatile interpretive approach.

In the final analysis, interpretive design is subjective, and dependent on both aesthetic considerations as well as the particular characteristics and resources available for a specific program. Success or failure should be evaluated by examining all interpretive offerings in the park. The goal is to fully comply with the following policy:

“We will provide the highest level of accessibility possible and feasible for persons with visual, hearing, mobility, and mental impairments, consistent with the obligation to conserve park resources and preserve the quality of the park experience for everyone.”

Audiovisual Programs

Audiovisual programs include motion pictures, sound/slide programs, video programs, and oral history programs. As a matter of policy, all audiovisual programs should include some method of captioning.

The captioning method will be identified as early as possible in the planning process and will be presented in an integrated setting where possible. To the extent possible, visitors will be offered a choice in viewing captioned or uncaptioned versions, but in situations where a choice is not possible or feasible, a captioned version of all programs will be made available. Park management will decide on the most appropriate operational approach.

Guidelines Affecting Mobility Impaired Visitors

1. The theater, auditorium, or viewing area should be accessible and free of architectural barriers, or alternative accommodations will be provided.
2. Wheelchair locations will be provided according to ratios outlined in UFAS 4.1.2(18a).
3. Viewing heights and angles will be favorable for those in designated wheelchair locations.
4. In designing video or interactive components, control mechanisms will be placed in accessible location, usually between 9” and 48” from the ground and no more than 24” deep.

Guidelines Affecting Visually Impaired Visitors

1. Simultaneous audio description will be considered for installation where the equipment can be properly installed and maintained.

Guidelines Affecting Hearing Impaired Visitors

1. All audiovisual programs will be produced with appropriate captions.
2. Copies of scripts will be provided to impaired visitors.
3. Audio amplification and listening systems will be provided in accordance with UFAS 4.1.2(18b)

Guidelines Affecting Learning Impaired Visitors

1. Unnecessarily complex and confusing concepts will be avoided.
2. Graphic elements will be chosen to communicate without reliance on the verbal component.
3. Narration will be concise and free of unnecessary jargon and technical information.

Exhibits

Numerous factors affect the design of exhibits, reflecting the unique circumstances of the specific space and the nature of the materials to be interpreted. It is clear that thoughtful, sensitive design can go a long way in producing exhibits that can be enjoyed by a broad range of people.

Because of the constraints the architecture of the Woodson House and the Chapline Building place on exhibit design, and because some exhibits may make use of large specimens or sensitive artifacts requiring special environmental controls, and because the architectural style will dictate certain solutions, the design of these exhibits will require a certain flexibility. Exhibit design is an art which defies simple description. One central concern, however, is to communicate the message to the largest audience possible. Every reasonable effort will be made to eliminate any factors limiting communication through physical modification or by providing an alternate means of communication.

Guidelines Affecting Mobility Impaired Visitors

1. Exhibit space will be free of physical barriers or a method of alternate accommodation will be provided.
2. All pathways, aisles, and clearances will meet standards set forth in UFAS 4.3 to the degree possible within the limitations of the historic architecture. Generally a minimum width of 36" will be provided.
3. Ramps will be as gradual as possible and will not exceed a slope of 1" rise in 12" run, and otherwise conform with UFAS 4.8
4. Important artifacts, labels, and graphics will be placed at a comfortable viewing level relative to their size. Important text will be viewable to all visitors. Display cases will allow short or seated people to view the contents and the labels. Video monitors associated with exhibits will be positioned to be comfortably viewed by all visitors.
5. Lighting will be designed to reduce glare or reflections, especially when viewed from a wheelchair.
6. Ground and floor surfaces near the exhibit area will be stable, level, firm, and slip-resistant. (UFAS 4.5)
7. Operating controls or objects to be handled by visitors will be located in an area between 9" and 48" from the ground and no more than 24" deep. (UFAS 4.3)
8. Horizontal exhibits (e.g. the terrain model of the battlefield) will be located at a comfortable viewing height.
9. Information desks and sales counters will be designed for use by visitors and employees using wheelchairs, and will include a section with a desk height no greater than 32" to 34", with at least a 30" clearance underneath. The width should be a minimum of 32" vertical, with additional space provided for cash registers or other equipment, as applicable.
10. Accessibility information about the park should be available at the information desk and the international symbol of access will be displayed where access information is disseminated.
11. Railings and barriers will be positioned in such a way as to provide unobstructed viewing by persons in wheelchairs.

Guidelines Affecting Visually Impaired Visitors

1. Exhibit typography will be selected with readability and legibility in mind.

2. Characters and symbols shall contrast with their backgrounds, either light characters on a dark background or dark characters on a light background.
3. Tactile and participatory elements will be included where possible.
4. Audio descriptions will be provided where applicable.
5. Signage will be provided indicate accessible restrooms, telephones, and elevators.

Guidelines Affecting Hearing Impaired Visitors

1. Information presented via audio formats will be duplicated in a visual medium, either in the exhibit copy or by printed material.
2. Amplification systems and volume controls will be incorporated to make programs accessible to the hard of hearing.
3. Written text of all audio narration will be provided.
4. All narrated audiovisual programs will be captioned.
5. Allowance for Telecommunications Devices for the Deaf (TDDs) will be included into information desk designs.

Guidelines Affecting Learning Impaired Visitors

1. Exhibits will avoid unnecessarily complex and confusing topics.
2. Graphic elements will be developed to communicate non-verbally.
3. Unfamiliar expressions and technical terms will be avoided and pronunciation aids will be provided where appropriate.
4. To the extent possible, information will be provided in a manner suitable to a diversity of abilities and interests.
5. Where possible, exhibits will be multi-sensory. Techniques to maximize the number of senses utilized in an exhibit will be encouraged.
6. Exhibit design will be cognizant of directional handicaps and will utilize color and other creative approaches to facilitate comprehension of maps.

Historical Furnishings

Historically furnished rooms offer the public a unique interpretive experience by placing visitors within historic spaces. Surrounded by historic artifacts, visitors can feel the spaces “come alive” and relate more directly to the historic events or personalities commemorated by the park.

Accessibility is problematical in many such sites because of the very nature of historic architecture. Buildings were erected with a functional point of view that is many times at odds with our modern views of accessibility. The approach used to convey the experience of historically furnished spaces will vary from location to location. The goals, however, will remain the same, to give the public as rich an interpretive experience as possible given the nature of the structures.

Guidelines Affecting Mobility Impaired Visitors

1. The exhibit space should be free of architectural barriers or a method of alternate accommodation should be provided, such as slide programs, videotaped tours, visual aids, dioramas, etc.
2. All pathways, aisled, and clearances shall (when possible) meet standards set forth in UFAS 4.3 to provide adequate clearance for wheelchair routes.
3. Ramps shall be as gradual as possible and not exceed 1” rise in 12” run, and conform with UFAS 4.8.
4. Railings and room barriers will be constructed in such a way as to provide unobstructed viewing by persons in wheelchairs.
5. Lighting will be designed to reduce glare or reflections when viewed from a wheelchair.
6. Alternative methods of interpretation, such as audiovisual programs, audio descriptions, photo albums, and personal services will be used in areas which present difficulty for the physically impaired.

Guidelines Affecting Visually Impaired Visitors

1. Exhibit typefaces will be selected for readability and legibility, and conform with good industry practice.

2. Audio description will be used to describe furnished rooms, where appropriate.
3. Windows will be treated with film to provide balanced light levels and minimize glare, if appropriate to the preservation treatment of the structure.
4. Where appropriate, visitor-controlled rheostat-type lighting will be provided to augment general room lighting.
5. Where appropriate and when proper balance has been approved, surplus artifacts or reproductions will be utilized as “hands-on” tactile interpretive devices.

Guidelines Affecting Hearing Impaired Visitors

1. Information about room interiors will be presented in a visual medium such as exhibit copy, text, pamphlets, etc.
2. Captions will be provided for all audiovisual programs relating to historic furnishings.

Guidelines Affecting the Learning Impaired

1. Where appropriate, hands-on participatory elements geared to the level of visitor capabilities will be used.
2. Living history activities and demonstrations which utilize the physical space as a method of providing multi-sensory experiences will be encouraged.

Publications

A variety of publications will be offered to visitors, anchored by the park folder. The park folder should give a brief description of services available to the disabled, list significant barriers, and note the existence of TDD phone numbers, if available.

In addition, informational site bulletins may be produced to provide more specialized information about a specific site or topic. It is recommended that the park produce an easily updatable Accessibility Site Bulletin which could include detailed information about the specific programs, services, and opportunities available for the disabled and to describe barriers which are present in the park. These bulletins should be in reasonably large type, 18 points or larger.

Guidelines Affecting Mobility Impaired Visitors

1. The park folder, site bulletins, and sales literature will be distributed from accessible locations and heights, or personal assistance will be provided.
2. The park folder and Accessibility Site Bulletin should endeavor to carry information on the accessibility of buildings, trails, and programs by the disabled.

Guidelines Affecting Visually Impaired Visitors

1. Publications will be designed with the largest type size appropriate for the format.
2. Special publications designed for use by the visually impaired should be printed in 18 point type.
3. The information contained in the park folder should also be available on audio cassette. Handbooks, accessibility guides, and other publications should be similarly recorded where possible.

Guidelines Affecting Hearing Impaired Visitors

1. Park site bulletins will note the availability of such special services as sign language interpretation and captioned programs.

Guidelines Affecting Learning Impaired Visitors

1. Park site bulletins should list any special services available to this group.

Wayside Exhibits

Wayside exhibits, which include outdoor interpretive exhibits and signs, orientation shelter exhibits, trailhead exhibits, and bulletin boards, offer special advantages to disabled visitors. The liberal use of photographs, artwork,

diagrams, and maps, combined with highly readable type, make wayside exhibits an excellent medium for visitors with hearing and learning impairments. For visitors with sight impairments, waysides offer large type and high legibility.

Although a limited number of park wayside exhibits may be inaccessible to visitors with mobility impairments, effort will be made to place them at accessible pullouts, viewpoints, parking areas, and trailheads.

These accessibility guidelines for wayside exhibits help ensure a standard of quality that will be appreciated by all visitors. Nearly everyone benefits from high-quality graphics, readable type, comfortable base designs, accessible locations, hard-surfaced exhibit pads, and well-landscaped exhibit sites.

While waysides are valuable on-site “interpreters,” it should be remembered that the park resources themselves are the primary things the visitors come to experience. Good waysides focus attention on the features they interpret, and not on themselves. A wayside exhibit is only one of the many interpretive tools which visitors can use to enhance their appreciation of the park.

Guidelines Affecting Mobility Impaired Visitors

1. Wayside exhibits will be installed at accessible locations whenever possible.
2. Wayside exhibits will be installed at heights and angles favorable for viewing by most visitors, including those in wheelchairs. For standard NPS-style low-profile units the recommended height is 30” from the bottom edge of the exhibit panel to the finished grade; for vertical exhibits a height of 6”-28”.
3. Trailhead exhibits will include an accessibility advisory.
4. Wayside exhibit sites will have level, hard-surfaced exhibit pads.
5. Wayside exhibit sites will offer clear, unrestricted views of park features described in exhibits.

Guidelines Affecting Visually Impaired Visitors

1. Exhibit type will be as legible and readable as possible.
2. Panel colors will be selected to reduce eye strain and glare, and to provide excellent readability under field conditions. White should not be used as a background color.
3. Selected wayside exhibits may incorporate audio stations or tactile elements such as models, texture blocks, and relief maps.
4. For all major features interpreted by wayside exhibits, the park should offer non-visual interpretation covering the same subject matter. Examples include cassette tape tours, radio messages, and guide talks.
5. Appropriate tactile cues should be provided to help visually impaired visitors locate exhibits.

Guidelines Affecting Hearing Impaired Visitors

1. Wayside exhibits will communicate visually, and will rely heavily on graphics to interpret park resources.
2. Essential information included in audio station messages will be duplicated in written form, either as part of the exhibit text or with printed material.

Guidelines Affecting Learning Impaired Visitors

1. Topics for wayside exhibits will be specific and of general interest. Unnecessary complexity will be avoided.
2. Whenever possible, easy-to-understand graphics will be used to convey ideas, rather than text alone.
3. Unfamiliar expressions, technical terms, and jargon will be avoided. Pronunciation aids and definitions will be provided where needed and appropriate.
4. Text will be concise and free of long paragraphs and wordy language.

Appendix B: Tour Logistics

The process of moving people from point A to point B in an interpretive activity must be planned with careful consideration for travel time, stop duration, trail distances and conditions, and the vagaries of visitor behavior. The project area contains three principal routes for which logistics must be considered: The Fort Craig Route, The Battlefield Route, and the Old Munfordville Walking Tour.

Activity: The Fort Craig Route

Route:	Monument Gate to junction; junction to Fort Craig and the Cemetery; return by the same path.
Transport:	Wagon Ride, on foot
Distance:	2 miles, round trip
Duration:	2 hours
Capacity:	Unguided walking: No limit Guided walking: 30 Wagon: 20-22
Trail Type:	Fine gravel, fenced, boardwalk
Comment:	This activity is to be implemented in Phase I.

Activity: The Battlefield Route

Route:	Monument Gate to CSX ROW, thence to the Monument, thence to the track crossing; track crossing to Stockade Site Stockade Site to Pond Gate; Pond Gate to Fort Craig; Fort Craig to Pond Gate, Pond Gate to Monument Gate
Transport:	Pedestrian, Wagon
Distance:	3.5 miles, round trip
Duration:	3 hours
Capacity:	Pedestrian: No limit Guided: 30 Wagon: 20-22
Trail Type:	Fine gravel, fenced; fine gravel, unfenced; boardwalk
Comment:	This route is by no means solidified, however, see Phase II: Battlefield , above. This activity is intended for Phase II implementation, unless the Monument is made accessible, and then the route will be implemented to include only the Monument visit in Phase I.

Activity: The Old Munfordville Walking Tour

Route: Route will follow the map in the Old Munfordville Walking Tour

Transport: Pedestrian

Distance: *Uncertain as of this writing*

Duration: Approximately 1 hour

Capacity: Pedestrian: No limit
Guided: 40

Trail Type: Sidewalk

Comment: This activity is already in place as a self-guiding activity. It will launch from the Chapline Building, although brochures will be available at the Visitor Center.

It is unlikely that the Savage House (McCook's HQ) can be realistically incorporated into this activity, lying as it does at some extreme down Caldwell Street. The accompanying brochure must contain a detailed street map with a clearly delineated path to travel. Every effort must be made to mitigate the impact on residential Munfordville of the increased use of this route. Activity documentation must make it very clear that these are private properties and there is no public entry allowed.

Serious consideration must be given to the issue of visitor parking on the north side. Parking is at a premium on busy days in Munfordville, and visitors and residents alike may become frustrated at their inability to find parking during periods of heavy Museum and Walking Tour visitation. A solution should be arrived at early on so that the parking area can be incorporated into the print publications that will be developed.

Appendix C: Publication Needs Assessment

Item:	Site Folder (Map and Guide)
Purpose:	To provide an encapsulated comprehensive overview of the entire project area, and to enable visitors to better understand the site and better plan their visit. The folder will include a site map, instructions for visiting and participating in the various activities, and general overviews of the themes addressed in the Woodson House.
Comment:	This publication will adhere to National Park Service quality standards as implemented in Harpers Ferry Center publications. Specific information such as fee schedules and timetables will not be printed in this publication, as such information is subject to some fluctuation in the initial stages, and this printing will need to be used for some time. A one-color interim folder should be designed and printed in moderate quantity so that publicity can be undertaken prior to site completion.
Item:	Rack Card/Brochure
Purpose:	To disseminate information about the site through mass distribution at Interstate welcome stations, brochure racks, etc.
Comment:	This item is a necessary part of the publicity campaign, as the Site Folder will be too expensive per unit for mass distribution.
Item:	Site Bulletins
Purpose:	To elaborate on specific topics of interest not covered, or covered in brief, by the Site Folder. Site Bulletins will serve as the primary means of addressing the secondary themes listed in this plan.
Comment:	These publications will be designed to print in one color for economy of printing.
Item:	Walking Tour Brochure
Purpose:	To guide visitors on the Old Munfordville Walking Tour. This publication will provide specific information on the history and significance of the 13 properties on the Old Munfordville Walking Tour. It will also reference Forts Terrell and Willich, although indicating that they are not generally available for viewing.
Comment:	This publication will, in its inception, be designed for one-color printing; as the tour increases in popularity, or as greater funding becomes available, a color replacement will be designed.
Item:	Battlefield Trek Brochure
Purpose:	This is a special-use item designed for Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and other youth groups that awards badges/medals for completion of an activity.
Comment:	Although there has been some impetus for revitalizing the Battlefield Trek, first instituted in the 1970s, it is unclear whether the program as it was known is the optimal approach. Consideration should be given to superseding the Battlefield Trek with a more comprehensive and substantial Heritage Education Program that offers curricula to schools and other groups that work with children and youth.

Item:	Book Sales Items (For detail, please refer to the <i>Sutler Shop Plan</i>)
Purpose:	To provide a broad yet topical range of publications that visitors may purchase to expand their understanding of the site and the Civil War in general. Development of a sales list will require review of individual materials for appropriateness and quality. Potential items can be found in bibliographies, catalogs, internet searches, and by visiting similar sites' sales areas.
Item:	Ticket Tags
Purpose:	To designate which visitors have paid the fee for the Wagon Tour. These tags, printed on adhesive stock, will be designed to peel off a backing and adhere to the visitor's clothing. This will minimize the litter problem associated with loose paper tickets. These tags will be color-coded to ensure that a tag purchased on a given day is used only for that day.
Comment:	This technique has been used effectively at Shaker Village at Pleasant Hill.
